

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 65-6 Date c. 1796
Building Name Adelphi Mill and Miller's Cottage
Location Riggs Road (#212), Adelphi, Maryland
Open to Public x yes no restricted

Adelphi Mill, probably the oldest and largest mill in the Washington area, stands on the north bank of the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. Constructed of field stone, this two story structure has its entrance in the north gable end. On the opposite side of the present highway #212 stands the miller's cottage; also of stone, it is built into the side of the hill so that its basement is exposed on the stream side. A porch is built across this principal south facade.

The mill and cottage were built by Issachar and Mahlon Scholfield about 1796, when they had several parcels of land resurveyed and renamed Adelphi. The most prominent owner of the mill was George Washington Riggs, founder of the Riggs and Company banking house, forerunner of the present Riggs National Bank. The mill was owned and operated by Riggs and his family from 1865 to 1920, and was known during this time as the Riggs Mill. Later owners, the McCormick-Goodhart family, gave the land and mill in 1951 to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which has since restored it.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Adelphi Mill and Miller's Cottage

AND/OR COMMON Riggs Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Riggs Road (#212)

CITY, TOWN Adelphi VICINITY OF P.G. (5th district)
STATE Maryland COUNTY Prince George's**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 6600 Kenilworth Ave.

CITY, TOWN Riverdale VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Md. 20840

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. P.G. County Courthouse

Liber #: 1436
Folio #: 321,324

STREET & NUMBER Main Street,

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro STATE Maryland 20870

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE H.A.B.S. (also Historic Sites Survey, P.G. Co. 1973)

DATE 1936 ☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress, Washington D.C.

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

PG:65-6

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Adelphi Mill, a two-story gable roofed structure, stands on the north bank of the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. Constructed of field stone, its gable ends are frame above the roofline. At the three-bay north gable end is a central doorway with flanking windows; at the northeast corner is an interior brick chimney.

On the opposite side of the present highway (#212) stands the miller's cottage. This one-and-one-half story stone structure is built into the side of the hill so that its basement is exposed on the stream side. A brick chimney stands at the east end. The three-bay south facade has a porch across it, with central door. This cottage is stone to the ridge line, with boxed cornice.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local history		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1796

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The c. 37 acre tract on which Adelphi Mill stands consisted of parts of Gilead and Cramphin's Lott, resurveyed in 1796 by the brothers Issachar and Mahlon Scholfield and renamed Adelphi (Greek meaning "brothers"). It was at this time that the Scholfields built the mill and miller's cottage; both stone buildings appear on the 1798 Tax Assessment. Although they sold half interest in the mill in 1799, the brothers Scholfield regained the mill through the Chancery Court and operated it until 1813.

Adelphi Mill, which is probably the oldest and largest in the Washington area, changed hands several times in the early 19th century, but in 1865 was purchased by George Washington Riggs, founder of the banking house of Riggs and Company in Washington D.C. Riggs invested heavily in real estate in the Washington area, and his business prospered. After his death in 1881, the Mill property passed to his son T.L. Riggs, and in 1897 to his other son Elisha Francis Riggs, who by then had reorganized his father's bank into the present Riggs National Bank.

The Mill remained in the Riggs family, and was known as Riggs Mill, until 1920. The last private owners were the McCormick-Goodhart family, whose mansion still stands about ½ mile west of the Mill, and who conveyed the mill property and surrounding park land to MNCPPC in 1951.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Patent IC#0; fol.550

1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment

Chancery Case #4790

Equity #420: Liber JB#1, fol.100; Liber #1436, fol.321,324
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.1 acres**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION****LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan G. Pearl

March 1979

ORGANIZATION

MNCPPC

DATE

262-3367, 868-1121

STREET & NUMBER

6701 McDonough Terrace

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bowie, Maryland

STATE

20715

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

1 E 15 6
P 447
1700474204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME					
COMMON:					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Riggs-Adelphi Mill and Miller's House					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: Riggs Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Adelphi					
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No	
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission					
STREET AND NUMBER: 6600 Kenilworth Avenue					
CITY OR TOWN: Riverdale			STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region					
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: MNCPPC					
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue					
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The mill is a two-story, building laid up with field-stone. The north gable end is three bays with a central doorway and flanking double hung sash windows; the openings are spanned by wooden lintels. The gable ends are frame. At the north end is an interior chimney.

The stone miller's house is a story and a half, stone building built into the side of the hill so it has an exposed basement on the stream side. It is stone, with a brick chimney on the east end. Across the main (south) facade is a porch, supported on posts, with a shed roof. The facade is three bays with a central doorway. The windows are 6/6 double hung sash. The cornice is boxed; window surrounds are plain boards.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

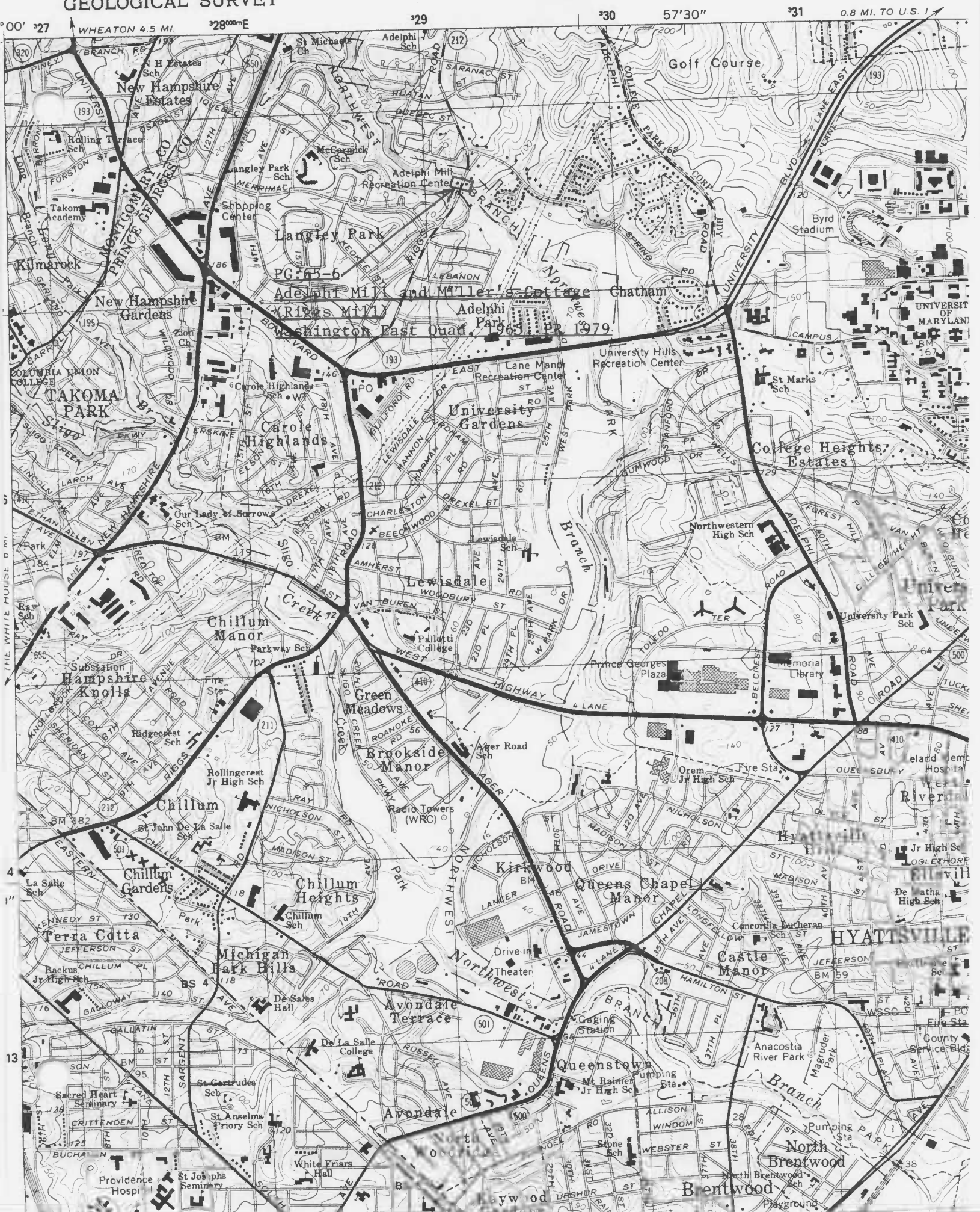
NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION MNCPPC	DATE 1 Nov 74
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____





NAME ADELPHI MILL (MNCPPC) P6:65-6

LOCATION RIGGS RD. + NW BRANCH, ADELPHI, MD.

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 11/1/74

M. DWYER